

## FOR

Breaking forth like a sudden tempest, he over-ran all, breaking down all the holds and fortresses. *Spenser on Ireland.*  
The trump of death sounds in their hearing thrill;  
Their weapon, faith; their fortress was the grave. *Fairfax.*  
God is our fortress, in whose conquering name  
Let us resolve to scale their flinty bulwarks. *Shak. Hen. VI.*  
There is no such way to give defence to absurd doctrines, as to guard them round about with legions of obscure and undefined words; which yet makes these retreats more like the dens of robbers, or holes of foxes, than the fortresses of fair warriors. *Locke.*

**FORTUITOUS.** *adj.* [*fortuitus*, French; *fortuitus*, Lat.] Accidental; casual; happening by chance.  
A wonder then it must be, that there should be any man found so stupid as to persuade himself that this most beautiful world could be produced by the fortuitous concurrence of atoms. *Ray on the Creation.*

If casual concurrence did the world compose,  
And things and acts fortuitous arose,  
Then any thing might come from any thing;  
For how from chance can constant order spring. *Blackmore.*

**FORTUITOUSLY.** *adv.* [from *fortuitous*.] Accidentally; casually; by chance.  
It is partly evaporated into air, and partly diluted into water, and fortuitously shared between all the elements. *Rogers.*

**FORTUITOUSNESS.** *n. f.* [from *fortuitous*.] Accident; chance; hit.

**FORTUNATE.** *adj.* [*fortunatus*, Latin.] Lucky; happy; successful; not subject to misfortune. Used of persons or actions.

I am most fortunate thus accidentally to encounter you: you have ended my business, and I will merrily accompany you home. *Shakespeare's Coriolanus.*

He sigh'd; and could not but their fate deplore,  
So wretched now, so fortunate before. *Dryd. Knight's Tale.*

No, there is a necessity in fate  
Why still the brave bold man is fortunate:

He keeps his object ever full in sight,  
And that assurance holds him firm and right:

True, 'tis a narrow path that leads to bliss,  
But right before there is no precipice;

Fear makes men look aside, and so their footing mis. *Dry.*

**FORTUNATELY.** *adv.* [from *fortunate*.] Happily; successfully.

Bright Eliza rul'd Britannia's state,  
And boldly wife, and fortunately great. *Prior.*

**FORTUNATENESS.** *n. f.* [from *fortunate*.] Happiness; good luck; success.

O me, said she, whose greatest fortunateness is more unfortunate than my sister's greatest unfortunateness. *Sidney, b. ii.*

**FORTUNE.** *n. f.* [*fortuna*, Latin; *fortune*, French.]

1. The power supposed to distribute the lots of life according to her own humour.

*Fortune*, that arrogant whore,  
Ne'er turns the key to th' poor. *Shakespeare's King Lear.*

'Tis fortune's malice overthrow my state,  
My mind exceeds the compass of her wheel. *Shak. H. VI.*

2. The good or ill that befalls man.

Rejoice, said he, to-day;  
In you the fortune of Great Britain lies:

Whom heav'n has chose to fight for such a prize. *Dryden.*

The adequate meaning of chance, as distinguished from fortune, in that the latter is understood to befall only rational agents, but chance to be among inanimate bodies. *Bentley.*

3. The chance of life; means of living.

His father dying, he was driven to London to seek his fortune. *Swift.*

4. Event; success good or bad.

This terrestrial globe has been surrounded by the fortune and boldness of many navigators. *Temple.*

No, he shall eat, and die with me, or live;  
Our equal crimes shall equal fortune give. *Dryd. Innocence.*

5. Estate; possessions.

If thou do'st  
As this instructs thee, thou do'st make thy way  
To noble fortunes. *Shakespeare's King Lear.*

That cyclops head of thine was first fram'd flesh  
To raise my fortune. *Shakespeare's King Lear.*

But tell me, Tytus, what heav'nly power  
Preserv'd your fortune in that fatal hour? *Dryd. Virg. Post.*

The fate which governs poets, thought it fit  
He should not raise his fortune by his wit. *Dryden.*

He was younger son to a gentleman of a good birth, but small fortune. *Swift.*

6. The portion of a man or woman: generally of a woman.

I am thought some heirs rich in lands,  
Fled to escape a cruel guardian's hands;

Which may produce a story worth the telling,  
Of the next sparks that go a fortune stealing. *Prol. to Orphan.*

The fortune hunters have already cast their eyes upon her, and take care to plant themselves in her view. *Speitator.*

## FOR

When mis' delights in her spinnet,  
A fiddler may a fortune get. *Swift.*

7. Futurity; future events.

You who mens fortunes in their faces read,  
To find out mine, look not, alas, on me;

But mark her face, and all the features heed;  
For only there is writ my destiny. *Cowley's Mistress.*

**TO FORTUNE.** *v. n.* [from the noun.] To befall; to fall out; to happen; to come casually to pass.

It fortun'd, as fair it then befall,  
Behind his back, unweaving, where he stood,

Of ancient time there was a springing well,  
From which fast trickled forth a silver flood. *Fairy Queen.*

It fortun'd the same night that a Christian, serving a Turk  
In the camp, secretly gave the watchmen warning that the  
Turks prepared the next day to give a general assault. *Knotter.*

I'll tell you as we pass along, *Shakespeare.*

That you will wonder what hath fortun'd.  
Here fortun'd Curl to slide. *Pope's Dunciad.*

**FORTUNED.** *adj.* Supplied by fortune.

Not th' imperious show  
Of the full fortun'd Caesar ever shall  
Be brook'd with me. *Shakespeare. Ant. and Cleopatra.*

**FORTUNEBOOK.** *n. f.* [*fortune* and *book*.] A book consulted to know fortune or future events.

Thou know'st a face, in whose each look  
Beauty lays ope love's fortunebook;

On whose fair revolutions wait  
The obsequious motions of love's fate. *Crawford.*

**FORTUNEHUNTER.** *n. f.* [*fortune* and *hunt*.] A man whose employment is to enquire after women with great portions to enrich himself by marrying them.

We must, however, distinguish between fortunehunters and fortunechealers. *Speitator, N<sup>o</sup>. 312.*

**TO FORTUNESELL.** *v. n.* [*fortune* and *sell*.]

1. To pretend to the power of revealing futurity.

We are simple men; we do not know what's brought to pass under the profession of fortunetelling. *Shakespeare.*

I'll conjure you, I'll fortunetell you. *Shakespeare.*

The gypsies were to divide the money got by stealing linen, or by fortunetelling. *Walton's Angler.*

2. To reveal futurity.

Here, while his canting drone-pipe scan'd  
The mystick figures of her hand,

He tipples palmistry, and dines  
On all her fortunetelling lines. *Clarendon.*

**FORTUNETELLER.** *n. f.* [*fortune* and *teller*.] One who cheats common people by pretending to the knowledge of futurity.

They brought one Pinch, a hungry lean-fac'd villain,  
A thread-bare juggler, and a fortuneteller. *Shakespeare.*

A Welchman being at a fections-house, and seeing the prisoners hold up hands at the bar, related to some of his acquaintance that the judges were good fortunetellers; for if they did but look upon their hand, they could certainly tell whether they should live or die. *Bacon's Apophthegms.*

Haft thou given credit to vain predictions of men, to dreams or fortunetellers, or gone about to know any secret things by lot? *Duppa's Rules for Devotion.*

There needs no more than impudence on one side, and a superstitious credulity on the other, to the setting up of a fortuneteller. *L'Estrange, Table 94.*

Long ago a fortuneteller  
Exactly said what now befall her. *Swift.*

**FORTY.** *adj.* [*quadraginta*, Saxon.] Four times ten.

On fair ground I could beat forty of them. *Shak. Coriol.*

He that upon levity quits his station, in hopes to be better, 'tis forty to one loses. *L'Estrange.*

**FORUM.** *n. f.* [Latin.] Any public place.

The forum was a public place in Rome, where lawyers and orators made their speeches before the proper judge in matters of property, or in criminal cases, to accuse or excuse, to complain or defend. *Watts's Improvement of the Mind.*

Close to the bay great Neptune's fane adjoins,  
And near a forum flank'd with marble shines,

Where the bold youth, the num'rous fleets to store,  
Shape the broad sail, or smooth the taper oar. *Pope.*

**TO FORWARD.** *v. a.* [*for* and *wander*.] To wander wildly and wearily.

The better part now of the ling'ring day  
They travelled had, when as they far epy'd  
A weary wight forward'ring by the way. *Fairy Queen, b. i.*

**FORWARD.** *adv.* [*forwards*, Saxon.] Towards; to a part or place before; onward; progressively.

When fervent sorrow flaked was,  
She up arose, resolving him to find  
Alive or dead, and forward forth doth pass. *Fairy Queen.*

From smaller things the mind of the hearers may go forward to the knowledge of greater, and climb up from the lowest to the highest things. *Hobbes, b. v. f. 20.*

He that is used to go forward, and findeth a stop, falseth of his own favour, and is not the thing he was. *Bacon's Essay.*

**FORWARD.**

## FOS

**FORWARD.** *adj.* [from the adverb.]

1. Warm; earnest.

They would that we should remember the poor, which I also was forward to do. *Gal. ii. 10.*

2. Ardent; eager; hot; violent.

You'll still be too forward. *Shakespeare. Two Gent. of Verona.*

Unskill'd to dart the pointed spear,  
Or lead the forward youth to noble war. *Prior.*

3. Ready; confident; presumptuous.

Old Bute's form he took, Anchises' squire,  
Now left to rule Alcanius by his fire;  
And thus salutes the boy, too forward for his years. *Dryd.*

4. Not reserved; not over modest.

'Tis a per'ous boy,  
Bold, quick, ingenious, forward, capable;  
He's all the mother's from the top to toe. *Shakespeare. Rich. III.*

5. Premature; early time.

Short Summer lightly has a forward Spring. *Sb. R. III.*

6. Quick; ready; hasty.

The mind makes not that benefit it should of the information it receives from civil or natural historians, in being too forward or too slow in making observations on the particular facts recorded in them. *Locke.*

Had they, who would persuade us that there are innate principles, considered separately the parts out of which these propositions are made, they would not perhaps have been so forward to believe they were innate. *Locke.*

7. Antecedent; anterior: opposed to posterior.

Let us take the infant by the forward top;  
For we are old, and on our quick'it decrees  
Th' inaudible and noiseless foot of time  
Steals, ere we can effect them. *Shakespeare.*

8. Not behindhand; not inferior.

My good Camillo,  
She is as forward of her breeding, as  
She is i' th' rear o' our birth. *Shakespeare. Winter's Tale.*

**TO FORWARD.** *v. a.* [from the adverb.]

1. To hasten; to quicken; to accelerate in growth or improvement.

As we house hot country plants, as lemons, to save them;  
So we may house our own country plants to forward them,  
and make them come in the cold seasons. *Bacon's Nat. Hist.*

Whenever I shine,  
I forward the grass and I ripen the vine. *Swift.*

2. To patronise; to advance.

**FORWARDER.** *n. f.* [from *forward*.] He who promotes any thing.

**FORWARDLY.** *adv.* [from the adjective.] Eagerly; hastily; quickly.

The sudden and surprising turns we ourselves have felt,  
should not suffer us too forwardly to admit presumption. *Liter.*

**FORWARDNESS.** *n. f.* [from *forward*.]

1. Eagerness; ardour; readiness to act.

Absolutely we cannot commend, we cannot absolutely approve either willingness to live, or forwardness to die. *Hobbes.*

Is it to frame a matter to find a good thing furthered by ill men of a sinister intent and purpose, whose forwardness is not therefore a bribe to such as favour the same cause with a better and sincere meaning. *Hobbes, b. iv. f. 9.*

If the great ones were in forwardness, the people were in fury, entertaining this airy phantasm with incredible affection. *Bacon's Henry VII.*

2. Quickness; readiness.

He had such a dextrous proclivity, as his teachers were fain to restrain his forwardness; to the end that his brothers, who were under the same trainings, might hold pace with him. *Watson.*

3. Earliness; early ripeness.

4. Confidence; assurance; want of modesty.

In France it is usual to bring their children into company, and to cherish in them, from their infancy, a kind of forwardness and assurance. *Addison on Italy.*

**FORWARDS.** *adv.* Straight before; progressively.

The Rhodian ship pass'd through the whole Roman fleet, backwards and forwards several times, carrying intelligence to Drepanum. *Arbutnot on Coins.*

**FOSSE.** *n. f.* [*fossa*, Latin; *fis*, Welch] A ditch; a moat; an intrenchment thrown up by the spade.

**FOSSET.** See FAUCET.

**FOSSEWAY.** *n. f.* [*fosse* and *way*.] One of the great Roman inroads through England, so called from the ditches on each side.

**FOSSEL.** *adj.* [*fossilis*, Latin; *fossile*, French.] That which is dug out of the earth.

The fossil shells are many of them of the same kinds with those that now appear upon the neighbouring shores; and the rest such as may be presumed to be at the bottom of the adjacent seas. *Woodward's Natural History.*

Fossil or rock salt, and sal gemm, differ not in nature from each other; nor from the common salt of salt springs, or that of the sea, when pure. *Woodward's Natural History.*

**FOSSEL.**

It is of a middle nature, between fossil and animal, being produced from animal excrements, intermixed with vegetable salts. *Arbutnot on Aliments.*

**FOSSEL.** *n. f.*

In this globe are many other bodies, which, because we discover them by digging into the bowels of the earth, are called by one common name fossils; under which are comprehended metals and minerals. *Locke.*

Many kinds of fossils are very oddly and elegantly shaped. *Bentley's Sermons.*

By the word fossil, used as a denomination of one of three general divisions of natural productions, we understand bodies formed usually within the earth, sometimes on its surface, and sometimes in waters; of a plain and simple structure, in which there is no visible difference of parts, no distinction of vessels and their contents, but every portion of which is similar to and perfect as the whole. *Hill's Mat. Med.*

**TO FOSTER.** *v. a.* [*forster*, Saxon.]

1. To nurse; to feed; to support; to train up.

Thy threatening colours now wind up,  
And tame the savage spirit of wild war;  
That, like a lion foster'd up at hand,  
It may lie gently at the foot of peace. *Shakespeare. King John.*

Some say that ravens foster forlorn children. *Shakespeare.*

Our kingdom's earth should not be foil'd  
With that dear blood, which it hath foster'd. *Shakespeare. R. II.*

That base wretch,  
Bred on alms, and foster'd with cold dishes,  
With scraps o' th' court. *Shakespeare's Cymbeline.*

Fostering has always been a stronger alliance than blood. *Davies on Ireland.*

No more let Ireland brag her harmless nation  
Fosters no venom, since that Scots plantation. *Clarendon.*

The son of Mulciber,  
Found in the fire, and foster'd in the plains,  
A shepherd and a king at once he reigns. *Dryd. Æn. b. vii.*

2. To pamper; to encourage.

A prince of great courage and beauty, but foster'd up in blood by his naughty father. *Sidney, b. ii.*

3. To cherish; to forward.

Ye fostering breezes, blow;  
Ye softening dews, ye tender showers descend. *Thomson.*

**FOSTERAGE.** *n. f.* [from *foster*.] The charge of nursing; aliterage.

Some one adjoining to this lake had the charge and fosterage of this child, who being, perchance, but some base and obscure creature, was cast from the top of her temple into the lake adjoining; and, as the poets have feigned, changed by Venus into a fish, all but her face. *Raleigh's History.*

**FOSTERBROTHER.** *n. f.* [*forster* broder, Saxon.] One bred at the same pap; one fed by the same nurse.

**FOSTERCHILD.** *n. f.* [*forster* child, Saxon.] A child nursed by a woman not the mother, or bred by a man not the father.

The fosterchildren do love and are beloved of their foster-fathers. *Davies on Ireland.*

The goddess thus beguill'd,  
With pleasant stories, her false fosterchild. *Addison. Ov. Met.*

**FOSTERDAM.** *n. f.* [*foster* and *dam*.] A nurse; one that performs the office of a mother by giving food to a young child.

There, by the wolf, were laid the martial twins:  
Intrepid on her swelling dugs they hung;  
The fosterdam loll'd out her fawning tongue. *Dryden's Æn.*

**FOSTEREARTH.** *n. f.* [*foster* and *earth*.] Earth by which the plant is nourished, though it did not grow at first in it.

In vain, the nursing grove  
Seems fair a while, cherish'd with fosterearth;  
But when the alien compost is exhaul'd,  
Its native poverty again prevails! *Philips.*

**FOSTERER.** *n. f.* [from *foster*.] A nurse; one who gives food in the place of a parent.

In Ireland they put their children to fosterers; the rich men selling, the meaner sort buying the alterage of their children: in the opinion of the Irish fostering has always been a stronger alliance than blood; and the fosterchildren do love, and are beloved of their fosterfathers and their sept, more than of their own natural parents and kindred. *Davies on Ireland.*

**FOSTERFATHER.** *n. f.* [*forster* father, Saxon.] One who gives food in the place of the father.

In Ireland fosterchildren do love and are beloved of their fosterfathers; and their sept, more than of their own natural parents and kindred. *Davies on Ireland.*

The duke of Bretagne having been an host and a kind of parent or fosterfather to the king, in his tenderness of age and weakness of fortune, did look for aid this time from king Henry. *Bacon's Henry VII.*

Tyrreus, the fosterfather of the beast,  
Then clench'd a hatchet in his horny fist. *Dryden's Æn.*

**FOSTERMOTHER.** *n. f.* [*foster* and *mother*.] A nurse.

**FOSTERNURSE.** *n. f.* [*foster* and *nurse*.] This is an improper compound, because foster and nurse mean the same. A nurse.

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It is of a middle nature, between fossil and animal, being produced from animal excrements, intermixed with vegetable salts. *Arbutnot on Aliments.*

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